

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 MCT-01 AID-05 CCO-00 FBOE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-01

USSS-00 CA-01 A-01 SCS-06 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00

INRE-00 /085 W

-----078681 102300Z /64

O R 102230Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7068

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANAGUA 3108

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, SHUM, NU

SUBJECT: CONFRONTATION IN JINOTEPE - SEVERAL DEATHS

SUMMARY: DEMONSTRATIONS IN JINOTEPE RESULTED IN SHOOTING ON JULY 9 AS A RESULT OF WHICH SIX OR SEVEN DEMONSTRATING YOUTH ARE DEAD AND SEVERAL OTHERS WOUNDED. END SUMMARY.

1. IN JINOTEPE, ASTRIDE INTER-AMERICAN HIGHWAY SOUTH OF MANAGUA, THERE HAVE BEEN ONGOING PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS AND DISTURBANCES SUCH AS BARRICADES, BONFIRES IN THE STREETS, AND EXPLOSION OF HOMEMADE BOMBS SINCE THE CHAMORRO ASSASSINATION. THESE ACTIVITIES WERE ACCENTUATED ON FRIDAY, JULY 7, WHEN DEMONSTRATING YOUTH BROKE INTO THE OFFICES OF TELCOR, THE TELEPHONE-POST OFFICE ENTITY, AND THE NATIONAL BANK OFFICE. WINDOWS WERE BROKEN AND FURNITURE DAMAGED BEFORE THEY WERE CHASED OFF BY THE NATIONAL GUARD (GN). ON THE SAME DAY, A GN OFFICER AND THREE OTHER PEOPLE, INCLUDING TWO RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS, WERE WOUNDED BY THROWN ROCKS AND BOMBS. THE

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DISTURBANCES CONTINUED THE NEXT DAY AT A LESS VIOLENT LEVEL.

2. ON JULY 9, THE PRIMARILY STUDENTS AND OTHER YOUTH RENEWED THEIR REBELLION. REPORTS ARE STILL UNCLEAR, BUT SOME SHOTS WERE APPARENTLY FIRED AT THE STUDENTS FROM A TAXI REPORTEDLY BY SOMEONE WHO IS SAID TO BE TURKISH.

THERE WAS ALSO A REPORT THAT A US CITIZEN HAD ALSO SHOT AND KILLED ONE YOUTH. THE GN THEN REPORTEDLY MOVED IN TO DISPERSE THE STUDENTS. THEY WERE MET WITH A HAIL OF BOMBS, ROCKS AND MOLOTOV COCKTAILS. THE GN RETURNED FIRE AND REPORTEDLY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIX OR SEVEN DEATHS. FUNERAL CEREMONIES FOR FIVE OF THE YOUTH ARE REPORTED IN PROGRESS ON JULY 10 AMIDST GREAT TENSION.

3. THE US CITIZEN WHO WAS REPORTED TO HAVE KILLED A YOUTH CAME TO EMB ON JULY 10 AND DENIED THE REPORT. HE SAID HE WAS IN HIS IN-LAW'S HOUSE. THEY LEFT THE DOOR OPEN AND SEVERAL STUDENTS CARRYING BOMBS AND MOLOTOV COCKTAILS TRIED TO COME IN AND HE SCARED THEM AWAY WITH HIS HANDGUN, BUT HE DID NOT FIRE. HIS REPORT IS THAT OUTSIDE COMMUNIST AGITATORS HAD ARRIVED IN JINOTEPE FROM MASAYA AT THE END OF LAST WEEK AND HAVE BEEN DIRECTING THE STUDENT REBELLION.

4 EMB WILL REPORT FUTHER DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE. AT PRESENT IT APPEARS THAT THERE WAS SERIOUS PROVOCATION, THE GN FIRED ON THE DEMONSTRATORS,AND SEVERAL WERE KILLED AND WOUNDED.
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